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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: LYN M. WISE ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/431,888

Group Art Unit: 1646

Filed: NOVEMBER 2, 1999

Examiner: JANET ANDRES

Title: VASCULAR ENDOTHELIAL GROWTH FACTOR-LIKE PROTEIN
FROM ORF VIRUS NZ2 BINDS AND ACTIVATES MAMMALIAN
VEGF RECEPTOR-2, AND USES THEREOF

AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Final Office Action dated May 7, 2002, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows (a marked-up version of the specification as amended is attached hereto):

The first full paragraph on page 11 has been amended as follows:

β1 According to a second aspect, the polypeptide of the invention has the ability to stimulate proliferation of endothelial cells and comprises a sequence of amino acids substantially corresponding to the amino acid sequence set out in Figure 11 (SEQ ID NO:11), or a fragment or analog thereof which has the ability to stimulate one or more of endothelial cell proliferation, differentiation, migration or survival. Preferably the polypeptides have at least 85% identity, more preferably at least 90%, and most preferably at least 95% identity to the amino acid sequence of Figure 11 (SEQ ID NO:11), or a fragment or analog thereof having the biological activity of NZ10.

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